**Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* Speech** (Group 1)

This is not time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy; now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice; now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood; now is the time to make justice a reality for all God's children.

Summarize the main ideas in your own words.

How does MLK Jr’s background as a minister influence his rhetoric (word choice) and tone?

How does the imagery help the audience to visualize his message?

Rewrite the following idea in your own words. Draw a picture to represent those thoughts from the speech or your translation.

**Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* Speech** (Group 2)

There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.

But there is something that I must say to my people. . . In the process of gaining our rightful place we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. . . We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. . . The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to a distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny and they have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom.

Summarize the main points in your own words.

‘But there is something that I must say to my people…’ What group of people would do you think MLK Jr. is addressing?

Why does MLK Jr suggest that the community not distrust all white people?

What can we infer about his character from this section of the speech?

**Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* Speech** (Group 3)

No, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

So I say to you, my friends, that even though we must face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed -- we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.

Summarize the main ideas in your own words.

List the two similes and describe what is being compared. In your own words, what do those similes mean?

How does MLK Jr.’s use of the following idea from the U.S. Constitution ‘we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal’ affect the impact of his speech?

**Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* Speech** (Group 4)

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, sons of former slaves and sons of former slave-owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day, even the state of Mississippi . . . will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

Summarize MLK Jr.’s dreams listed above.

If these dreams came true, how would this impact the world?

What are some of the obstacles preventing his dream from being fulfilled?

Has any part of his dream come true? If so, how?

**Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* Speech** (Group 5)

I have a dream today! I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama . . . little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers. I have a dream today. . . With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

Summarize MLK Jr.’s dream listed above.

What are some possible reasons Alabama is specifically referred to?

Using specific examples from the text, how does MLK Jr show is expectation for people to get along during good and bad times? What impact does this have?

**Dr. King's *I Have A Dream* Speech** (Group 6)

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with new meaning -- my country tis of thee; sweet land of liberty; of thee I sing . . . So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire . . . from the mountains of New York . . . from the curvaceous slopes of California . . . let freedom ring. . . and when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and hamlet, from every state and city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children -- black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Catholics and Protestants, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, Free at last, free at last; thank God Almighty, we are free at last.

Summarize the main idea in your own words.

How do you think MLK Jr.’s passionate tone impact the audience? Which idea seemed to affect you the most?

Why do you think MLK Jr. referred to the songs “America the Beautiful” and a Negro spiritual to support his message?

This is the first time in MLK Jr’s speech that non Southern states have been mentioned. What is the effect of the non Southern states being included at the end of the speech?